

Lesson Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Lesson ID: 62256-46983

Title: INTERVIEW WITH COL GREGSON, J-3 JTF-LA (NEED FOR UP-TO-DATE RIOT DOCTRINE)

Operation/Exercise Name: GARDEN PLOT

Observed: 01 May 1992

Originator: MCCDC (WF13)

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5. (U) OBSERVATION:

Riot-control doctrine was developed for a 1960's, 1970's environment. It is out-of-date.

6. (U) DISCUSSION:

Current riot-control doctrine was not designed for a non-lethal restoration of order operation. It was designed for a populace that is poorly organized and poorly armed. Armed groups present in Los Angeles were:

- Korean shop keepers guarding their own stores.
- Various gang elements with access to high tech weapons (fully automatic vs. burst).
- Homeowners/storeowners protecting their own turf.

Society has become more violent, and tactics that require Marines to restore order with troops on line, batons, and riot stomping are out-of-date.

7. (U) LESSON LEARNED:

Riot control doctrine developed in the 1960's and 1970's does not address a more violent society and an increase in the lethality of weapons in the possession of groups that might be involved in civil disorder.

8. (U) RECOMMENDED ACTION:

That current doctrine be reviewed and updated.

9. (U) COMMENTS:

NONE.

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